

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	Cont. of Application No. 09/469,527
	)	
Kristen L. WATKINS et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 2123
	)	
Application No.: Unassigned	)	Examiner: F. Ferris
	)	
Filed: February 17, 2004	)	
	)	
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR	)	
STAGGERING TIME POINTS	)	
FOR DEPLOYMENT OF RINGS	)	
IN A FIBER OPTIC NETWORK	)	
SIMULATION PLAN	)	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant(s) bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action in the above-referenced application. As such, no certification or fee is required. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the listed documents are not attached because such documents have been considered in the parent application (MPEP 609).

Applicant(s) respectfully request(s) that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

If any copending application(s) is/are cited on the attached PTO 1449, the Examiner's attention is directed to the foregoing application(s) in compliance with § 2001.06(b) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. By identifying the copending application(s), the assignee and/or applicant of the application(s) do not waive confidentiality of the application(s). Accordingly, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is requested to maintain the confidentiality of the copending application(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 122.


This submission does not represent that a search has been made and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant(s) determine(s) that the cited document(s) do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant(s) further reserve(s) the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 13-2491.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 17, 2004

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> PTO-1449				ATTORNEY'S DKT No. RIC-99-071C1		APPLICATION No. Unassigned	
				APPLICANT(S) Kristen L. Watkins et al.			
				FILING DATE February 17, 2004		GROUP 2123	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
	5,515,367	05/1996	Cox et al.	370	404		
	5,295,244	03/1994	Dev et al.	345	853		
	5,809,282	09/1998	Cooper et al.	709	226		
	5,583,792	12/1996	Li et al.	709	224		
	6,085,238	07/2000	Yuasa et al.	709	223		
	6,442,141	08/2002	Borella et al.	370	248		
	5,530,575	06/1996	Acampora et al.	359	128		
	6,205,413	03/2001	Bisdikian et al.	703	24		
	5,204,955	04/1993	Kagei et al.	714	55		
	5,787,252	07/1998	Schettler et al.	709	224		
	5,907,696	05/1999	Stilwell et al.	703	13		
	6,311,144	10/2001	Abu El Ata, Nabil A.	703	2		
	5,657,142	08/1997	Fahim, Furrukh	359	110		
	5,729,692	03/1998	Qui et al.	395	200.71		
	5,657,142	08/1997	Furrukh Fahim	359	110		
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						Yes	No
			insert country				
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
	"Capacity Planning and Performance Modeling: from mainframes to client servers"; D. Menasce; Prentice Hall; ISBN: 0-13-035494-5; 1994.						
	"Fast, Efficient Equipment Placement Heuristics for Broadband Switched or Internet Router Networks"; J. Gannett; White Paper Telcordia Technologies; July 29, 1999.						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).